LIGHT RAIL/ MODERN STREETCAR PROJECT IN MIAMI BEACH



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City of Miami Beach is assessing the advancement of a light rail transit (LRT) or modern streetcar system to connect residents, visitors, businesses and community attractions in South Beach. This project is envisioned to meet Miami Beach's increasing mobility needs, regional transit with a downtown connection, and to support environmental sustainability policies.

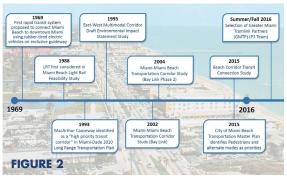


PROJECT BACKGROUND

The proposed Miami Beach project would be the first stage of the Beach Corridor Transit Connection Project, which would provide a future rail transit connection to Downtown Miami via the MacArthur Causeway. The proposed Miami Beach project would be designed to be interoperable with a future project extension to Downtown Miami via the MacArthur Causeway (Figure 1). This project has been in discussion since 1969, was revisited in 2003/2004 with extensive analysis, and updated in 2015 with key partners from neighboring cities in efforts to offer alternatives to single-occupant vehicular travel.

Key milestones in the project's history are shown in Figure 2. The studies also recommended additional phases in the future (Figure 3). The project is being evaluated in accordance with direction provided by a Policy Executive Committee comprised of Mayors and Commissioners to guide the 2015 study. In February 2016, Miami-Dade County, cities of Miami Beach and Miami, as well as the Florida Department of Transportation executed a Memorandum of Understanding to continue development of this regional transportation project. For more information visit: www.keepmbmoving.com and click on "Beach Corridor Project"

The project initially consisted of two phases (Phase 1 and 2), each approximately 2.5 miles in length with stations spaced approximately 3 blocks apart (Figure 3).





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The recommendations of the 2015 study included a connection across the MacArthur Causeway with:

- 1. A Phase 1 Alignment along 5 Street and Washington Avenue.
- 2. A Phase 2 Alignment along Alton Road and Dade Boulevard.
- 3. The 2015 Metropolitan Planning Organization Study recommended that the project be advanced as a Public-Private Partnership (P3), where the city would enter into a long-term contract with a qualified contractor (or concessionaire) to design, build, finance, operate, and maintain the project, pursuant to the concessionaire meeting all contractual performance conditions.

OCTOBER UPDATE

At the City Commission meeting on October 19, 2016, the Commission authorized staff to continue project development activities for Phase 1 based on community input and financial feasibility (Figure 5).

If approved, the Phase 1 project would include a vehicle storage, maintenance, and operations facility that would be located north of Dade Boulevard as a joint use with the city's Public Works facility.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

In accordance with prior studies, City Commission direction and community preference- the proposed project under evaluation and development:

- would be powered by catenary-free or wireless technologies;
- would operate on exclusive rights-of-way to assure on time reliability and expedited travel; and
- would serve the Art Deco District, the Miami Beach Convention Center and surrounding areas.

Project development and environmental analyses are underway. These will be completed by early 2017 and documented in an Environmental Impact Report that will be available for public review at that time.

A concurrent public involvement program was launched in June 2016 and will continue throughout project development

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The City of Miami Beach appreciates your involvement as the project study progresses. Please email us to be added to our mailing list, and consult the project website for public meeting notices.